



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on December 19, 2001, this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Trudi Thompson
Trudi Thompson

PATENT

Applicant: **Cress et al.**

Serial No.: **09/424,940**

Filed: **March 7, 2000**

Title: **IMMUNOASSAY FOR THE
DETECTION OF CANCER**

Examiner: **G.B. Nickol**

Group Art Unit: **1642**

Atty Docket No.: **212662-11**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed June 19, 2001, Applicants respond as follows.

Claims 1-21 are pending in the present application. Claims 6, 7 and 11-21 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Applicants' election to prosecute claims 1-5 and 8-10. Claims 1-5 and 8-10 stand rejected.

Amendment to Reflect Priority Status

Please amend page 1 of the specification as follows:

A1
This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/048,405, entitled "IMMUNOASSAY FOR THE DETECTION OF CANCER," filed on June 3, 1997 (now abandoned), by Ngo et al., and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/060,088 entitled "IMMUNOASSAY FOR THE DETECTION OF CANCER," filed on September 26, 1997 (now abandoned), by Ngo et al., which are incorporated by reference herein.

In the Specification

Please make the following change

At page 11 at line 26:

A2
In one embodiment of the present invention, the method measures proteolytic degradation of fibrinogen with minimal interference from intact fibrinogen. In this